(a) the number of pending freedom fighter pension cases from Pondicherry;

(b) what steps are being taken for speedy clearance of the cases; and

(c) whether it is a fact that even after the orders have been passed by the High Court of Madras to give pension, the same has not been granted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) No case complete in all respects and eligible for Samman pension, duly verified and recommended by the Government of Pondicherry, is pending.

(c) Orders passed by the Courts are complied with unless there are good grounds for filing appeals there against.

Blast in Srinagar

635. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a devastating blast in the vegetable market at Srinagar on 3rd January, 2000;

(b) if so, the details of the blast and the number of casualties in the blast;

(c) whether Government have found any security lapse in the case; and;

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) On 3rd January, 2000 around 1000 hours militants caused an explosion at Sabzi Mandi, Batmaloo, Srinagar when a large number of people were purchasing vegetables at the Sabzi Mandi. Due to the explosion 15 persons including some security personnel died.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Terrorist Infiltration from Nepal

636. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state: